

2021 Annual Report of the  
**Maryland Heritage Areas Authority**  
Maryland Department of Planning  
July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

[mht.maryland.gov](http://mht.maryland.gov)  
[planning.maryland.gov](http://planning.maryland.gov)

100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032



This report is required by the  
Code of Maryland, Financial Institutions Article § 13-1108(5)



Cover Photo: View from the bow of the Skipjack *Martha Lewis*  
Photo Courtesy of the Annapolis Maritime Museum

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## Preserving and Sharing Our Heritage

Maryland's heritage areas support the economic well-being of Maryland communities by preserving and celebrating the state's history, cultural traditions, and natural resources through partnerships that promote, support, and create place-based experiences for visitors and residents alike.

Heritage areas are places to experience – to see, hear, and even taste – the authentic heritage of Maryland in a unique way you cannot experience anywhere else. Heritage areas are where the stories of the people, the land, and the waters of Maryland, which have been intertwined for thousands of years, are told. By preserving these tangible links to both place and the past, residents and visitors are encouraged to recognize they have a special piece of the American story to treasure and share with others, and in doing so they create more livable and economically sustainable communities. Now entering its 25th year of operation, the Maryland Heritage Areas Program has enjoyed steady growth, enthusiastic private and public support, and a record of achievement.

At the local and regional level, heritage areas focus community attention on often under-appreciated aspects of history, archaeology, cultural traditions, and distinctive natural areas, fostering a stronger sense of pride in the places where Marylanders live and work. At the state level, the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority (MHAA) provides targeted state financial and technical assistance within a limited number of areas MHAA designates as “Certified Heritage Areas” ●





Each of Maryland's 13 Certified Heritage Areas is locally managed and defined by a distinctive focus or theme that makes that place or region different from other areas of the state. These distinctive places exhibit tangible evidence of the area's heritage in historic buildings and districts, cultural traditions, and singular natural landscapes, as well as other resources such as museums, parks, and traditional ways of life as revealed in food, music, and art. The special flavor of each heritage area attracts not only out-of-state visitors, but people living in the region who are also looking for experiences that are different and unique.

The program recognizes that a successful heritage area needs to have a viable economy that values the area's unique resources and, through public and private partnerships, strives to preserve and enhance the resources that make the area distinct and attractive to residents and visitors. By investing matching public dollars to create tourism-related products, spark matching private investment, and motivate local leadership, the MHAA seeks to promote a sustainable level of heritage tourism that is appropriate for the community, strengthens the local economy, and improves quality of life●

## Program Goals: Enhance, Increase, Enable, Foster, and Accomplish

MHAA charted the future course for the program by developing seven program goals. These goals demonstrate MHAA's commitment to protecting and interpreting the state's heritage assets and to achieving these goals by means of broad-based partnerships.

1. TO ENHANCE the visitor appeal and enjoyment of the state's history, culture, natural environment, and scenic beauty by enhancing the overall visitor experience.
2. TO INCREASE the economic activity associated with tourism, creating opportunities for small business development, job growth, and a stronger tax base.
3. TO ENCOURAGE preservation and adaptive reuse of historic buildings, conservation of natural areas important to the state's character and environment, and the continuity and authenticity of cultural arts, heritage attractions, and traditions indigenous to the region.
4. TO ENABLE Marylanders and visitors alike to have greater access to and understanding of the history and traditional cultures of the state and to understand the important events that took place here.



5. TO FOSTER linkages among and between heritage attractions that encourage visitors to explore, linger, and sample the diverse offerings of the state's distinctive regions.
6. TO BALANCE the impact of tourism activity with the quality of life enjoyed by residents.
7. TO ACCOMPLISH these goals via partnerships among local and regional leaders, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and state agencies.

The Williams Observatory at Hood College  
Photo courtesy of the Hood College





## Program Governance: Interagency Collaboration

In the same way the MHAA encourages stakeholders to cooperate at the local level, the interagency structure also encourages state agencies to work together to pool funding resources, share staff expertise, and ensure the interests and responsibilities as diverse as history, archaeology, culture, natural resources, recreation, economic development, and education are factored into program activities.

The MHAA, an independent unit of state government housed in the Maryland Department of Planning (Planning), leads the program. The MHAA is chaired by Planning Secretary Robert S. McCord. The 19-member body consists of nine state officials representing the departments of Planning, Housing and Community Development, Transportation, Commerce, Natural Resources, Agriculture (non-voting), and Education (non-voting), and the Maryland Higher Education Commission, and the State Historic Preservation Officer. An additional 10 members are appointed by the Governor, including one representative each from the Maryland Association of Counties, the Maryland Municipal League, the Maryland Greenways Commission, the Maryland Tourism Development Board, two public members (one with historic preservation expertise and one with heritage tourism expertise), and two representatives each for the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Delegates●



The restoration of the Hosanna School in Harford County. Photos courtesy of Hosanna Community House, Inc.







The Emmanuel Episcopal Parish in Cumberland  
Photo courtesy of Emmanuel Episcopal Parish, Inc.



Participants at the Chesapeake Heartland African  
American Humanities Truck  
Photo Courtesy of Washington College



## Program Structure: Empowering Maryland's Communities



Exhibits at the Havre de Grace Maritime Museum  
Photo courtesy of Anyta Thomas



Maryland's heritage areas vary considerably in size, governance, and thematic focus. The program defers to local communities to determine what management structure best satisfies local needs and circumstances, while meeting the program's overall tourism development, economic growth, and preservation/conservation goals. The structure of the Maryland Heritage Areas Program is designed to be locally-focused.

Becoming a Certified Heritage Area is a two-stage competitive process. An area is first recognized, and then certified upon completion of a management planning process. The heritage area management planning process is locally-based and wide-ranging. Development of management plans generally takes one to five years to complete, largely due to the amount of public outreach necessary to involve key stakeholders, and allow them to reach consensus on the roles of partners in the development and implementation of the heritage area.

Importantly, the Maryland Heritage Areas Program statute requires all county and municipal governments to amend their local comprehensive land use plans to incorporate the heritage area management plan. This requirement formalizes local governments' long-term commitment to the heritage area. Following the amendment of local government comprehensive plans and the MHAA's approval of a management plan, the heritage area is designated as a Certified Heritage Area●



Maryland's 13 Certified Heritage Areas include:

1. Baltimore National Heritage Area in Baltimore City
2. Beach to Bay Heritage Area in Somerset, Worcester, and Wicomico counties
3. Four Rivers (Annapolis, London Town, and South County) Heritage Area in Anne Arundel County
4. Heart of Chesapeake Country Heritage Area in Dorchester County
5. Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area in Carroll, Frederick, and Washington counties
6. Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway in Harford and Cecil counties
7. Maryland Milestones (Anacostia Trails) Heritage Area in Prince George's County
8. Montgomery County Heritage Area
9. Mountain Maryland Gateway to the West Heritage Area in Garrett County
10. Passages of the Western Potomac Heritage Area (Canal Place) in Allegany County
11. Patapsco Valley Heritage Area in Baltimore and Howard counties
12. Southern Maryland Heritage Area in Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's counties
13. Stories of the Chesapeake Heritage Area in Kent, Queen Anne's, Caroline, and Talbot counties



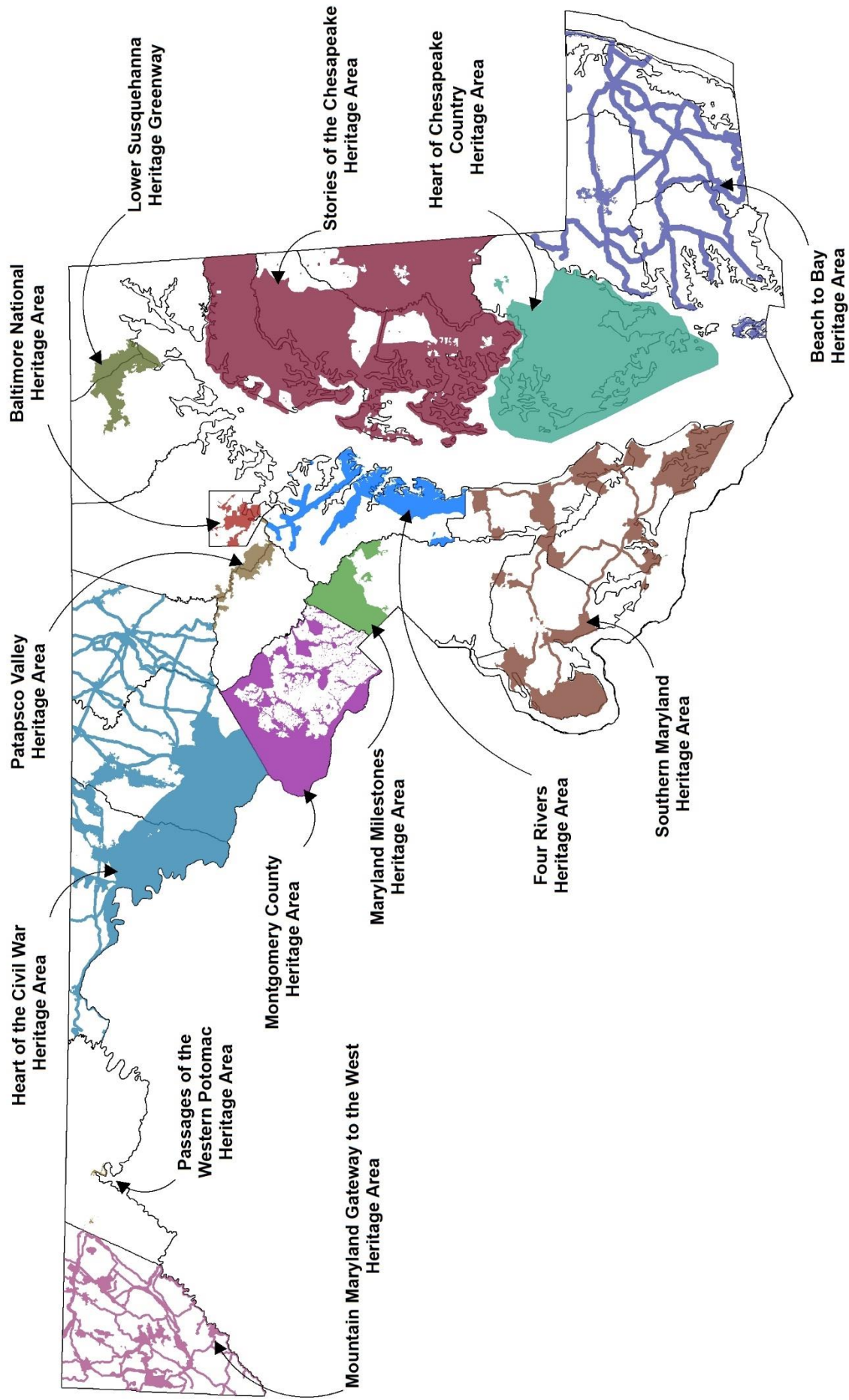
Restored horses at the carousel at Glen Echo Park  
Photo courtesy of Sarah Rodgers at Heritage Montgomery, Inc.

Projects and properties throughout the Certified Heritage Areas are eligible for grants for planning, design, rehabilitation, construction, interpretation, exhibits, materials, or other appropriate products to further educational and recreational objectives, marketing and programming, as well as projects that encourage revitalization and reinvestment in the heritage area.

Certified Heritage Areas are also eligible for broad program support from the state. In carrying out activities in the areas, all state agencies must ensure that those activities are consistent with the area's management plan and will not have an adverse effect on the resources of the heritage area, unless there is no prudent and feasible alternative ●



# Maryland's 13 Heritage Areas



Heritage Area	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2011	2012	2015
												2010		2014	
Passages of the Western Potomac Heritage Area															
Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway															
Four Rivers Heritage Area															
Baltimore National Heritage Area															
Beach to Bay Heritage Area															
Patapsco Valley Heritage Area															
Maryland Milestones Heritage Area															
Heart of Chesapeake Country Heritage Area															
Southern Maryland Heritage Area															
Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area															
Montgomery County Heritage Area															
Stories of the Chesapeake Heritage Area															
Mountain Maryland Gateway to the West Heritage Area															

Key: Date of Approval as Certified Heritage Areas

Date of approval as Recognized Heritage Areas



\*NOTE: Becoming a Heritage Area is a two-step process:

Step 1 is to become a **Recognized Heritage Area**;

Step 2 is to become a **Certified Heritage Area**, which requires the development of a heritage area management plan, and its approval by the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority.



## Ongoing Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic



Hikers on the Grist Mill Trail in Patapsco Valley State Park  
Photo courtesy of DJ Scheckelhoff

Throughout 2021, the MHAA worked to support Maryland's historical and cultural organizations as they navigate the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Although much of the state has reopened, many historical and cultural organizations are still struggling with lost revenues and disruptions. The MHAA remains committed to working with constituents to ensure they are able to preserve Maryland's unique heritage.

This year, the MHAA continued to allow grantees to use up to \$20,000 of their awards for COVID-19 operating expenses. This allowance has helped keep the lights on and staff working at dozens of partner organizations across the state. To date, the program has issued more than \$1 million in COVID-related relief to constituents, ensuring that Maryland's culture and history remain protected.

As the state continues to reopen, the MHAA is committed to working with its partners to ensure that heritage tourism helps revitalize Maryland's economy. The MHAA and Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) are continuing to explore new opportunities to support partner organizations during the reopening period ●



## MHAA Says Farewell to Bernadette Pulley Pruitt



Bernadette, family, and staff from the Maryland Historical Trust  
Photo courtesy of Jen Ruffner

2021 marked the end of a long career for Bernadette Pulley Pruitt, who retired in June after serving the State of Maryland for 34 years. Bernadette began her tenure with the state in 1987 at the Banneker Douglass Museum and went on to provide administrative support to the MHAA for the past 20 years. Bernadette was often the first person new MHAA members and heritage area directors met at the quarterly meetings, and she made sure they were welcomed; she was always happy to share her vast institutional knowledge. She was responsible for organizing the many in-house and away meetings for the MHAA, arranging venues and transportation, as well as excellent post-meeting meals that provided the opportunity for valuable informal professional interactions that benefited the entire state. Bernadette brought her passion for history and genealogy to her work, and shared her personal family history, including an account on MHT's blog of her visit to the National Historic Landmark property, Whitehall, where a number of her ancestors were enslaved. Bernadette will be greatly missed and the MHAA members wish her all the best in her retirement●



## New Members to the MHAA Grants Panel

In 2021, the MHAA continued to successfully work with its Grants Review Panel, first established in FY20. Providing a wide range of professional and personal perspectives to the program, this panel is tasked with meeting annually to review and rank project grants.

This year, the MHAA welcomed nine new members to the panel. These new members offer exceptional backgrounds in architecture, archeology, grants management and economic development.

### **Charlotte Davis (Frederick, Maryland)**

Charlotte Davis is the Executive Director of the Rural Maryland Council and has more than 20 years of experience serving the State of Maryland. She currently oversees the Maryland Agricultural Education and Rural Development Assistance Fund and the Rural Maryland Prosperity Investment fund. Her years of experience working with rural Maryland allows her to offer invaluable insights into potential projects across the state.



### **Lenett Nef'ahntiti Partlow-Myrick (Pikesville, Maryland)**

Lenett Nef'ahntiti Partlow-Myrick is an artist, poet, writer, and instructor of English at Howard Community College. She is also a Ph.D. candidate in the Transdisciplinary Leadership doctoral program at the University of Vermont. She has worked with local, state, and national organizations and has more than 40 years of experience in fundraising, grant writing, and the proposal review process. Across all of her work, she has maintained a commitment to cultural preservation and sustainability. With her work being displayed at a number of prestigious institutions, Ms. Partlow-Myrick brings a wealth of expertise in the fields of art and culture to the panel.





**Elinor Thompson - Representative of the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture**

Elinor Thompson is serving on the panel as a Commissioner on the Maryland Commission on American History and Culture. For more than 35 years, Elinor has worked in the nonprofit sphere on historic preservation and genealogy. She is an expert in preserving and interpreting church and cemetery records and has used her expertise to examine family and community histories. She brings extensive experience with projects pertaining to cemeteries, community history, and cultural heritage.



**Heather Savino (Baltimore, Maryland)**

Heather Savino is the Director of Development and Marketing for Patterson Park Public Charter School, Inc. She has experience in social work, community action, and social policy. On the panel, she has provided insight into working with youth, representing the LGBTQ+ community, and investigating the intersection of race and social services.



**Linda Moore-Garoute (Prince George's County)**

Linda Moore-Garoute is the Vice President of the Cedar Haven Association on the Patuxent River and Vice Chair of the Town of Eagle Harbor Environmental Advisory Committee. She is an expert in climate change mitigation, and was certified as a Climate Change Professional by/in the State of Maryland in 2020. She has experience working with the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, the Chesapeake Bay Trust Foundation, and the Maryland Sustainable Growth Commission.



**Samia Rab Kirchner (Baltimore, Maryland)**

Samia Kirchner is an associate professor of Architecture and Planning at Morgan State University. She has years of experience working in historic preservation, urban conservation, and waterfront redevelopment. In the past several years, she has applied her knowledge to the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), serving as a member of their International Cultural Tourism Committee and a desk reviewer for their World Heritage Nomination Dossiers. Her expertise in historic preservation and her experience with ICOMOS allows her to bring a global perspective to the grants review process, supported by extensive knowledge of the industry's best practices.



**Jennifer Shea (Claiborne, Maryland and Chevy Chase, Maryland)**

Jennifer Shea is a communications strategist and filmmaker with experience in education, theater, and the arts. Currently, she serves as the writer and strategist for the Herson Group, a well-known communications consulting firm. Prior to this position, Jennifer worked at Cornell University as a lecturer and administrator. Outside of these positions, Jennifer has worked in film, directing an oral history project for the Tilghman Watermen's Museum that was screened on Maryland Public Television and PBS. She is also serving on the board of Maryland Humanities and has past board experience in education and the arts. Jennifer's years of experience in these fields allows her to contribute a critical perspective when assessing projects through a cultural, educational, and artistic lens.



The Grant Review Panel has continued to surpass expectations. Given the exceptional challenge of considering over 200 applications, the panel conducted an insightful, equitable, and robust review to set forth recommendations for funding for FY22●

## Grant Projects

Since its inception in 1996, the MHAA has awarded approximately \$53.8 million in financial assistance, and leveraged more than \$1.9 billion in non-state funds for heritage tourism projects and activities statewide.

<i><b>Fiscal Year</b></i>	<i><b>Total Available Funding</b></i>	<i><b># Grant Applications</b></i>	<i><b>Total Amount Requested</b></i>	<i><b># Grants Funded</b></i>	<i><b>Total Amount Funded</b></i>	<i><b>Total Cash &amp; In-Kind Match Leveraged</b></i>
<b>FY21</b>	\$6,000,000* +	170	\$7,568,989	117	\$5,125,409	\$24,737,958
<b>FY20</b>	\$6,000,000* +	293	\$8,413,666	184	\$6,141,147	\$5,437,064
<b>FY19</b>	\$6,000,000* +	164	\$7,277,876	114	\$4,998,692	\$9,714,664
<b>FY18</b>	\$3,000,000*	121	\$5,510,532	50	\$2,695,655	\$4,419,472
<b>FY17</b>	\$3,000,000*	125	\$5,349,580	52	\$2,699,532	\$10,141,144
<b>FY16</b>	\$3,000,000*	115	\$5,049,806	64	\$2,992,323	\$17,299,090
<b>FY15</b>	\$3,000,000*	105	\$4,882,454	62	\$2,686,306	\$14,093,629
<b>FY14</b>	\$3,000,000*	100	\$4,253,200	59	\$2,852,247	\$12,112,567
<b>FY13</b>	\$3,000,000*	106	\$4,035,643	65	\$2,769,705	\$4,982,227
<b>FY12</b>	\$2,500,000*	103	\$4,781,622	52	\$2,342,000	\$6,113,203
<b>FY11</b>	\$3,000,000*	79	\$3,797,558	58	\$2,767,146	\$9,013,468
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$41,500,000 .00</b>	<b>1,481</b>	<b>\$60,920,926</b>	<b>877</b>	<b>\$38,070,162</b>	<b>\$118,064,486</b>

\*Up to 10% of allocated funding may be used to pay for program operating expenses.

+\$300,000 was allocated through the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act for award as MHT Non-Capital Historic Preservation Grants.



During FY21, the MHAA awarded 43 non-capital project grants totaling \$1,250,969, and 45 capital project grants totaling \$2,316,705. In addition, five grants totaling \$118,325 were awarded for marketing of sites and attractions within the heritage areas. Thirteen grants to help support the operations of local Certified Heritage Area management entities were awarded, totaling \$1,204,593, and nine heritage areas received block grants to support mini-grants within their jurisdictions, totaling \$206,000. The remaining four heritage areas support mini-grants through their management grants. In addition to the regular grant round, three emergency grants were awarded to the Thurmont Historical Society, the City of Pocomoke, and the City of Cumberland, totaling \$28,817.

Some examples of the non-capital and capital projects and activities assisted by MHAA grant funding in FY20 include:

**Maryland Society of the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America “Let's Complete the Story” (Baltimore National Heritage Area – Baltimore City)**

Maryland's branch of the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America is refurbishing the Mount Clare Museum House, the Carroll family's former summer residence, which has operated as a museum since 1917. Now, the Colonial Dames have focused on reinvigorating the site's exhibits and interpretation to tell a more inclusive story of the estate's past. Their project, “Let's Complete the Story,” will expand the museum's narrative to include the stories of all the people who lived there including more than 200 enslaved people, indentured servants, and free laborers in addition to the Carrolls. Through new exhibits, pamphlets, and community outreach, Mount Clare Museum House will become an exceptional site to explore the unique and diverse history of our state.



The Mount Claire Museum House  
Image courtesy of the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America

**Allen Historical Society, Inc. “Continued Refurbishment of the Historic Huffington-Pollitt House in Allen, Maryland” (Beach to Bay Heritage Area – Somerset, Wicomico, and Worcester counties)**

The Allen Historical Society is rehabilitating the Huffington-Pollitt House in Allen for use as a museum and as the organization’s headquarters. The MHAA awarded the society a grant for improvements to exterior access and parking, the installation of a security system, painting and finishes, as well as renovations in the building’s kitchen. Ms. Eliza Huffington bought the lot where the Huffington-Pollitt House stands. The house itself is thought to have been constructed around 1883. She bequeathed the house to her two daughters in her will, and it remained in the Huffington family into the 1950s, when Jesse M. Pollitt and Agnes M. Pollitt acquired it. As a museum and local historical society, it will serve descendants with connections to Allen in their genealogical research and welcome visitors to the area.

The Skipjack *Wilma Lee* on the bay.  
Courtesy of the Annapolis Maritime Museum



**Annapolis Maritime Museum, Inc. “Restoration of Skipjack *Wilma Lee*” (Four Rivers/Annapolis, London Town and South County Heritage Area - Anne Arundel County)**

The historic skipjack *Wilma Lee*, purchased by the Annapolis Maritime Museum in 2018, is one of only a few skipjacks still in operation. Known for their speed and maneuverability, these vessels excelled in the Chesapeake Bay, where they were used for fishing, transportation, and commerce, playing an integral role in Maryland’s maritime culture during the early 20th century. In 1985, the skipjack was designated as the Maryland State Boat. The restoration efforts of the Annapolis Maritime Museum, including the addition of new rigging and safety equipment for the *Wilma Lee*, have preserved one of a few remaining vessels that were pivotal in the development of our state. The *Wilma Lee* is now open to the public for tours and short excursions.



### **Maces Lane Community Center Dorchester “Edythe M. Jolley Museum and Cultural Center” (Heart of Chesapeake Country – Dorchester County)**

This new cultural center will celebrate the heritage of Dorchester County’s African American residents. Specifically, it will tell the story of Maces Lane High School, the only black high school in Dorchester County between 1952 and 1969. The conversion of the high school into a cultural center will support the local community and ensure that important stories about Maryland’s segregated past are preserved.

### **Hood College “Seeing Stars: Planning for the Adaptive Reuse of the Historic Williams Observatory as a Museum”(Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area – Carroll, Frederick, and Washington counties)**

Hood College was awarded an MHAA grant as part of a project to refurbish their campus’ 1924 Williams Observatory as a museum and visitor center, which will open the observatory to the public and allow visitors to Frederick County to learn about the history of astronomy in central Maryland. In particular, the museum will focus on the history of 20th century education and the role of women in the development of modern astronomy. This project is part of Hood College’s ongoing efforts to serve its local community through public-facing projects and events.

### **Hosanna School Museum “Transition to Freedom Story Map”(Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway - Cecil and Harford counties)**

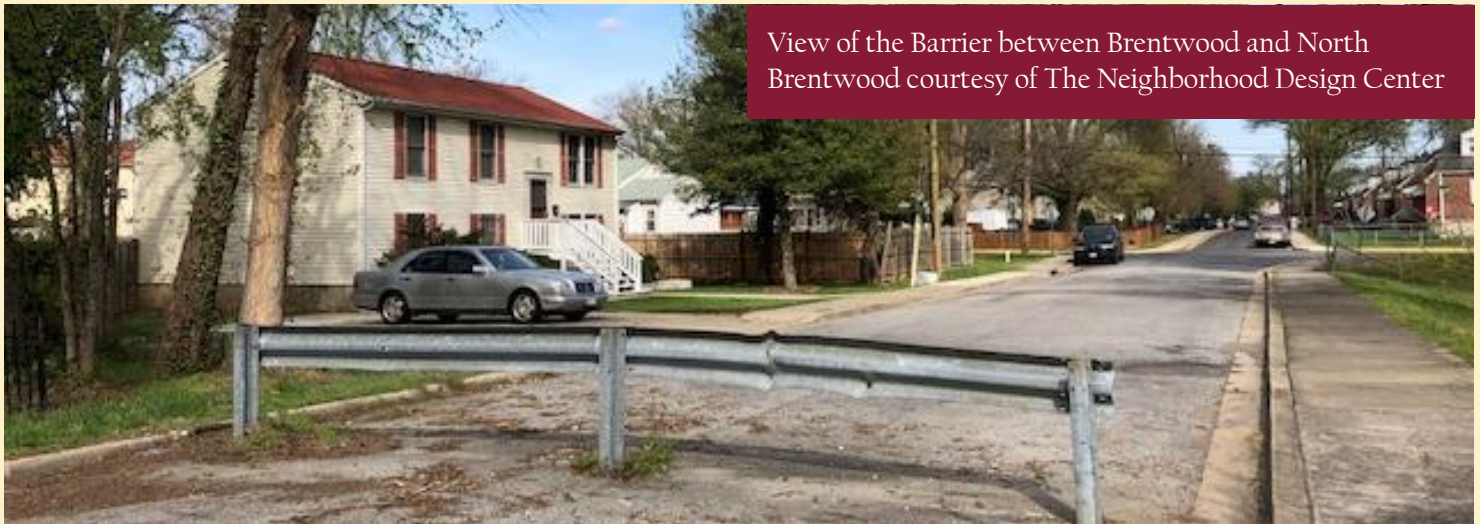
Hosanna School Museum will create an interactive digital story map that highlights places in the Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway related to African Americans’ struggle for freedom. Potential entries on the map include Frederick Douglass’ passage through Havre de Grace and his later visit to Port Deposit; the Hosanna School Museum, where Edmonia Highgate, who hailed from a renowned abolitionist family, served as the first teacher; and burial grounds where members of the U.S. Colored Troops have been laid to rest.



Living Biographers at the Hosanna School Museum  
courtesy of the Hosanna School Museum.

### **The Neighborhood Design Center “Art at the Divide: Windom Road Barrier Reimagined” (Maryland Milestones/Anacostia Trails Heritage Area – Prince George’s County)**

The Neighborhood Design Center (NDC), in partnership with the Towns of North Brentwood and Brentwood, will help these communities reimagine the site where a traffic barrier now stands on the town lines in the Maryland Milestones Heritage Area. The barrier represents a past division between historically African American North Brentwood and historically white Brentwood, and the project of re-envisioning the site together represents a shared future. NDC is working with a team of artists who are engaging with the local communities to research the history of this divide and collectively envision a piece of public art that tells the unique story of the historic traffic barrier and these towns. The MHAA grant and match will fund the creation of a prototype for this art installation.



View of the Barrier between Brentwood and North Brentwood courtesy of The Neighborhood Design Center

### **Sandy Spring Slave Museum and African Art Gallery, Inc. “Installation of an Ethernet Network for Enhanced Communication” (Montgomery County Heritage Area)**

As part of an effort to expand their programming and in-person event capacity, the Sandy Spring Slave Museum and African Art Gallery installed a high-speed ethernet network in their event space and installed cameras that allow them to livestream events at the site to viewers in adjacent rooms or to viewers tuning in at home. The museum’s focus is documenting and highlighting the history and culture of historically African American communities in Montgomery County, as well as providing training and information on cross-cultural communication and diversity.

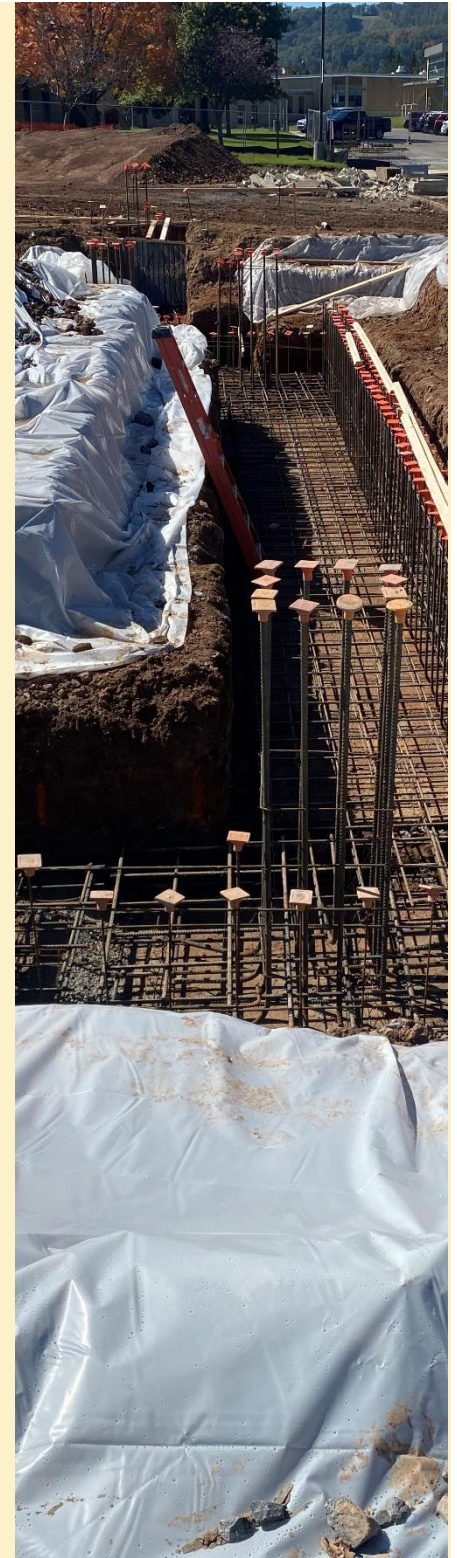


**Garrett Community College Foundation, Inc. “Garrett College Community Education and Performing Arts Center”**  
(Mountain Maryland Gateway to the West Heritage Area – Garrett County)

Garrett Community College will convert its gymnasium into a state-of-the-art community education and performing arts center, the first of its kind in Garrett County. The center will provide an exceptional venue for more than 400 attendees. Creating this community space will allow Garrett Community College to hold events of all types, from folk concerts to plays. In addition to the performance space, the community center will include rentable multi-purpose rooms for community-led classes and recitals. This site has the potential to revitalize the arts in Garrett County by providing a much-needed site to celebrate the region’s culture.

**Emmanuel Episcopal Parish Inc. “Outdoor Visitor Space and Signs”** (Passages of the Western Potomac Heritage Area – Allegany County)

The Emmanuel Episcopal Parish in Cumberland was originally awarded a FY21 MHAA grant to create a visitor center in a small building located near the historic church. However, when a larger building adjacent to the church became available, the organization acted quickly to secure the larger space for their long-term visitor center plans. They were granted an amendment from the MHAA to repurpose their FY21 grant funding to create a new outdoor visitor reception area, which will serve the church well. The outdoor space will be complete with landscaping, seating, and a kiosk with information about the site’s history. The church already offers tours of the historic parish, built in the 1840s on the site of Fort Cumberland. According to local oral history accounts, the tunnels under the parish may have been used as part of the Underground Railroad, a network of sites used by formerly enslaved people seeking freedom. The new outdoor area will serve as a welcoming space for visitors and provide a jumping off point for learning about this significant place – from the site’s time as Fort Cumberland during the French and Indian War to its location along the National Road and beyond.



Construction of the GCC Education and Performing Arts Center – courtesy of GCC

**Catonsville Rails to Trails, Inc. “The Catonsville Cycling Connection” (Patapsco Valley Heritage Greenway, Baltimore and Howard counties)**

Catonsville Rails to Trails is in the final stages of completing its local pedestrian trail network. In 2021, it plans to complete the Catonsville Short Line Trail, which would connect existing trails to Catonsville’s historic Main Street. This new connector will provide a convenient and safe route for pedestrians and cyclists to enjoy the shops and restaurants along the commercial corridor.

The Short Line Trail – Courtesy of Catonsville Rails to Trails



**Clements Island-Potomac River Museum “Piscataway Exhibit Preparation” (Southern Maryland Heritage Area – Calvert, Charles and St. Mary’s counties)**

The Clements Island-Potomac River Museum will create a new exhibit entitled “The Land We Call Home,” which will feature 38 objects loaned from the National Museum of the American Indian. The artifacts will help illuminate how the Piscataway people lived in southern Maryland around the time of European settlement and colonization. This exhibit is part of a larger project that involves constructing a new building for the museum.

**Washington College “Phase 2 - Chesapeake Heartland African American Humanities Truck” (Stories of the Chesapeake Heritage Area – Caroline, Kent, Queen Anne’s, and Talbot counties)**

With the help of a previous MHAA grant, Washington College purchased a customized vehicle, the Chesapeake Heartland African American Humanities Truck, which has begun travel to communities in Kent County and the surrounding region as part of a project to preserve, digitize, and record African American history. The second MHAA grant for this important project, awarded in July 2020, supported outfitting the truck with interactive traveling exhibits, equipment for archiving and digitizing, and oral history collection tools.



# Maryland Heritage Areas Authority Financing Fund Report FY97-20

## Funds Appropriated

FY97	\$ 1,000,000.00
FY98	\$ 1,000,000.00
FY99	\$ 1,000,000.00
FY00	\$ 1,000,000.00
FY01	\$ 1,000,000.00
FY02	\$ 1,000,000.00
FY03	\$ 1,000,000.00
FY04	\$ 1,000,000.00
FY05	\$ 1,000,000.00
FY06	\$ 1,000,000.00
FY07	\$ 3,000,000.00
FY08	\$ 3,000,000.00
FY09	\$ 3,000,000.00
FY10	\$ 3,000,000.00
FY11	\$ 3,000,000.00
FY12	\$ 3,000,000.00
FY13	\$ 3,000,000.00
FY14	\$ 3,000,000.00
FY15	\$ 3,000,000.00
FY16	\$ 3,000,000.00
FY17	\$ 3,000,000.00
FY18	\$ 3,000,000.00
FY19	\$ 5,700,000.00
FY20	\$ 5,700,000.00
FY21	\$ 5,700,000.00

Subtotal \$ 63,100,000

Interest Earned THRU June 30, 2009 \$ 1,539,098.00

Loan repayments (principal & interest) \$ 50,981.77

**Total Income \$ 64,690,079.77**

## Funds Committed and Expended

### Operations

FY97		9,812.03
FY98		42,989.03
FY99		33,898.79
FY00		47,095.50
FY01		105,746.67
FY02		147,303.35
FY03		115,675.40
FY04		94,103.84
FY04 Service charges		76.06
FY05		145,729.26
FY05 Service charges		35.52
FY06 DHCD		22,647.17
FY06 MDP		71,528.41
FY07		177,823.05
FY08		216,199.78
FY08 Operating Encumbrance Strategic Plan		75,600.00
FY09		321,029.15
FY10		290,447.50
FY11		231,435.27
	DGS rent FY11	111,516.00
	Grants software estimated	150,425.00
	Back of budget SF cash transfer	16,002.00
FY12	General fund swap	500,000.00
	FY12 operating	243,384.56
	DGS rent FY12	112,923.00
FY13	Operating including software	354,192.97
FY14	Operating Budget	272,583.88
	Operating Budget including	
FY15	software maintenance 2016	306,475.49
FY16	Operating Budget	299,200.02
FY17	Operating Budget	281,777.22
FY18	Operating Budget	309,278.64
FY19	Operating Budget	600,000.00
FY20	Operating Budget	293,599.68
FY21	Operating Budget	430,108.98
Subtotal		6,439,710.66



### Funds Recaptured

FY02	\$ 3,000,000.00
FY15 recaptured funds due to under attainment of transfer taxes	\$ 300,000.00
FY16 Adjustment to match FMIS Fund balances	\$ 37,263.37

### Grants Funded

Baltimore Heritage Area Block grant	25,000.00
Baltimore Heritage Area Management Grant	100,000.00
Baltimore Heritage Area Heritage and Mt Vernon Cultural Walks	39,195.00
Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church/ Improve access to Lovely Lane United Methodist Church	99,115.00
Jewish Museum of MD/ accessibility at Lloyd Street Synagogue	15,000.00
Project Liberty Ship/Refrigeration System Upgrade	13,600.00
Bromo Tower Arts and Entertainment/painted path	35,000.00
Peale Center for Baltimore History/infrastructure improvements	100,000.00
B&O Railroad Museum/storage capacity	55,000.00
Hamilton Lauraville Main Street/Farmers market and Lot	20,000.00
Maryland Historical Society/Civil Rights Exhibition	50,000.00
Greater Baltimore Urban League/Orchard Street Church	52,010.00
Friends of Herring Run Park/Heritage Trail	10,000.00
National Society of the Colonial Dames of America/Let's Complete the Story	50,000.00
American Inst of Architects/Reviving historic modernism	70,000.00
Friends of the President St Station/kiosk, website, walking tour	12,750.00
Lower Eastern Shore Heritage Committee/management grant	72,410.00
Allen Historical Society/Refurbish Huffington-Pollitt House	21,812.00
City of Pocomoke/Costen House ceiling repair	6,906.00
Wicomico County/Pirate's Wharf Historic Trail	39,457.00
City of Salisbury/Regional Folk Festival	50,000.00
Annapolis London Town South County Marketing Grant	25,000.00
Annapolis London Town South County Management Grant	100,000.00
Smithsonian Environmental Research Center/Sellman House Exhibit Planning Phase II	50,000.00
Annapolis Maritime Museum/Restoration Skipjack Wilma Lee	34,841.00
Historic Annapolis/Exhibit Fabrication and Installation	50,000.00
Historic Annapolis/William Paca garden accessibility planning	8,000.00
Annapolis Maritime Museum/Phase I improvements of museum campus	95,954.00
Preservation MD/Stabilization Captain William Burtis House	100,000.00
Captain Avery Museum/Vision	10,000.00
London Town Foundation/Education pavilion	100,000.00
County Council of Dorchester County/Block Grant	25,000.00
County Council of Dorchester County/Management Grant	100,000.00

Town of Est New Market/Furnishings,Lighting	5,000.00
Maces Lane Community Center/museum and cultural center	50,000.00
Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area/Block Grant	25,000.00
Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area/Management Grant	100,000.00
Catoctin Furnace Historical Society/exhibit design/production	50,000.00
Historical Society of Frederick County/preservation project	62,733.00
Douglas G Bast Museum/Rehabilitation Phase II	10,436.00
Town of Emmitsburg/wayside exhibit phase III	12,054.00
Battle of Falling Waters 1863 Foundation/parking area	45,000.00
African American Resources Cultural and Heritage Society/heritage center	50,000.00
Town of Sharpsburg/Antietam Station roof	19,685.00
Catoctin Furnace Historical Society/Restoration Phase III	25,000.00
City of Westminster/Durbin House historic structure assessment	25,000.00
Brunswick Potomac Foundation/façade restoration	8,000.00
H&F Trolley Trail/extension of trail Phase I	29,680.00
DNR/Fort Frederick visitor center exhibit	50,000.00
Hood College/adaptive reuse of Williams Observatory	15,927.00
Town of Mount Airy/historic train station roof replacement	17,980.00
Washington County Historical Society/The Seibert Collection	10,000.00
Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area/Marketing Grant	8,000.00
Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway/Management Grant	100,000.00
Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway/Block Grant	25,000.00
Town of Port Deposit/Phase II Town Hall repair	65,371.00
Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy/Restoration Skipjack Martha Lewis Phase II	77,107.00
DNR/Susquehanna State Park Restoration	81,000.00
Hosanna Community House/Story Map Transition to Freedom	23,341.00
Havre de Grace Arts Collective/feasibility study	50,000.00
Steppingstone Museum Assoc/Land of Promise preservation project	16,500.00
Anacostia Trails Heritage Area/Block Grant	25,000.00
Anacostia Trails Heritage Area/Management Grant	100,000.00
The Neighborhood Design Center/Windom Road Barrier	30,500.00
Pyramid Atlantic/40th Anniversary Exhibition	16,000.00
Laurel Historical Society/Phase II building rehabilitation	30,000.00
Friends of the Greenbelt Museum/Education and Visitor Center	100,000.00
Heritage Tourism alliance of Montgomery County/Management Grant	100,000.00
Heritage Tourism alliance of Montgomery County/Block Grant	25,000.00
Sandy Spring Slave Museum/ethernet network	10,000.00
Glen Echo Park Partnership/100th anniversary of Dentzel Carousel	20,000.00
Garrett County Chamber of Commerce/Block Grant	6,000.00
Garrett County Chamber of Commerce/Management Grant	100,000.00
Garrett Community College Foundation/Education and Performing Arts Center	100,000.00
Garrett County Chamber of Commerce/Marketing Grant	50,000.00
Chesapeake Conservancy/Bilingual interpreters at parks	50,000.00



Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Assoc/2021 World Canals Conference	15,000.00
Ward Foundation/Lowers Shore Traditions; immigrant community engagement	27,925.00
Pride of Baltimore/national historic trail ambassador	50,000.00
National Trust for Historic Preservation/documenting Chesapeake watershed sites and landscapes important to African Americans	33,000.00
Canal Place Preservation and Development/Management Grant	100,000.00
Downtown Development Commission, Cumberland/Baltimore Street Access	20,000.00
Emmanuel Episcopal Parish/Barkdoll House museum	40,000.00
County Commissioners of Allegany County/Marketing grant	22,610.00
Patapsco Heritage Greenway/Marketing Grant	12,715.00
Patapsco Heritage Greenway/Block Grant	25,000.00
Howard County Conservancy/Carriage House Adaptive Reuse	50,000.00
Catonsville Rails to Trails/Cycling Connection	50,000.00
Friends of Patapsco Valley State Park/Simkins Industries site - park infrastructure	75,000.00
Patapsco Heritage Greenway/Festival del Rio	5,000.00
Tri County Council for Southern Maryland/Management Grant	100,000.00
Town of LaPlata/attracting tourists to bird city	50,000.00
Launching Educational Assistance Programs/contributions of African Americans	7,500.00
Historic Sotterley/Common Ground Initiative	17,500.00
Historic St Mary's City Foundation/Master Plan 2021	50,000.00
Patuxent River Naval Air Museum/mural restoration	47,722.00
Ann's Circle/Tree-mendous Trail Phase II	40,000.00
Clements Island Potomac River Museum/Piscataway Exhibit	19,000.00
Eastern Shore Heritage/Block Grant	25,000.00
Eastern Shore Heritage/Management Grant	32,183.00
The Church Hill Theatre/restoration	66,674.00
Avalon Foundation/3rd floor lounge	30,000.00
Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum/Library and collections facility	100,000.00
Washington College/Custom House structural repairs	44,000.00
Oxford Community Center/Saved from the Wrecking Ball	5,545.00
Town of Denton/Richard Potter dwelling Phase I	40,000.00
Washington College/Humanities Truck	50,000.00
Friends of Wye Mill/Implementation Phase I	35,010.00
Caroline County Historical Society/Medford Dwelling Phase II	45,500.00
Sultana Education Foundation/Wetland preserve Visitors Center	50,000.00
Tilghman Volunteer Fire Company/Knapps Narrows Bridge Mural	25,000.00
City of Mt. Ranier/Rhode Island Avenue Revitalization	100,000.00
Scotland AME Zion Church/Baltimore district Leadership Development program Inc	100,000.00
Mount Vernon Place Conservancy/website upgrade	5,000.00
Town of Bladensburg/Bostwick Use Feasibility and Market Analysis	20,000.00
Mayor and City Council of Cumberland / Washington's HQ emergency repairs	5,000.00
Emergency grant Pocomoke City	17,000.00

Emergency grant Thurmont Historical Society	6,817.00
Patapsco Heritage Greenway/Management Grant	100,000.00

Subtotal FY 2021 Grants \$	5,217,065.00
Total Grants Committed \$	54,878,992.61
Total Grants Cancelled \$	125,000
Total Commitments/Expenditures \$	54,753,992.61

Mortar from an archeological dig.  
Photo courtesy of the Clements Island-Potomac River Museum





# National Heritage Areas in Maryland: From the Appalachian Forest Ecosystem of Western Maryland to the Bayside Landscapes of Southern Maryland

In FY21, two regions of Maryland made progress in the planning efforts for new national heritage areas. Just as the Maryland Heritage Areas program supports stewardship of the state's important landscapes, the "National Heritage Areas Program supports community stewardship of our nation's nationally important landscapes" (National Park Service, 2020).

Maryland already boasts two fully-established National Heritage Areas - the Baltimore National Heritage Area, which is located Baltimore City, and the Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Heritage Area, which stretches from Gettysburg to Charlottesville, including portions of Carroll, Frederick, and Washington counties and overlapping with Maryland's Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area.

In March 2019, the Appalachian Forest National Heritage Area (AFNHA) received its designation, and over the past two years, this heritage area has been focused on seeking input from stakeholders in order to develop its management plan to guide the heritage area's mission and activities going forward. This newly designated heritage area overlaps with the Mountain Maryland Gateway to the West Heritage Area in Garrett County and the Passages of the Western Potomac Heritage Area in Allegany County, and also spans 16 counties in West Virginia. Both of the Maryland state heritage areas have been important partners in helping to develop the management plan for AFNHA



Sunset over the Appalachian  
Photo courtesy of the Appalachian  
Forest National Heritage Area



A view of the Appalachian Forest  
Photo courtesy of Fran Trudeau

AFNHA's focus is forest heritage, which it defines as "the ongoing story of how the forest shapes history and culture, and how nature and human use shape the forest" (AFNHA, 2021). This national heritage area seeks to build regional partnerships across state lines and to leverage federal funds for heritage conservation and tourism.

"Inclusion in the Appalachian Forest National Heritage Area will provide additional funding opportunities and resources for all our eligible heritage partners and stakeholders in Allegany and Garrett counties," said Deidra Ritchie, Executive Director of the Passages of the Western Potomac Heritage Area. Ritchie also serves on the board of directors for AFNHA.

Kim Folk, who serves as Heritage Area and Groups Director for the Mountain Maryland Gateway to the West Heritage Area, added, "Being part of AFNHA is exciting for Garrett County, one of the smallest counties in Maryland in terms of population. This unique opportunity provides our stakeholders and partners with additional resources and opportunities to promote and enhance our heritage areas."



Meanwhile in southern Maryland, the state-Certified Heritage Area is leading an effort to gain national heritage area designation, making tremendous progress toward that goal in FY21. The heritage area hosted a series of community conversations to seek input on the places, natural resources, and history that create the southern Maryland experience.

Lucille W. Walker, Executive Director of the Southern Maryland Heritage Area (also known as Destination Southern Maryland), shared this insight about the region's national significance: "Southern Maryland is one of the foundation stories of our nation (including where Maryland began). As we look towards the 400th commemoration of the beginning of Maryland, it is an opportunity to evaluate and examine a more complete history of our state and country. It is in southern Maryland, for the first time in the western world, that any type of religious freedom or toleration was codified into law. This basic human right was established here. It is also where the first person of African descent ever served in a legislature in America (Mathias De Sousa, 1642) and where, for the first time, a woman ever petitioned for the right to vote (Margaret Brent, 1648). But it is also a land of contrasts, and as freedoms were established for some, freedoms were taken from others, such as the land and way of life of the native people, the Piscataway, and the future enslavement of those of African descent. In becoming a national heritage area, in addition to a state heritage area, we hope to raise the national profile of these important histories, with subsequent economic benefit to the region and the state. Ultimately, this is about the human spirit, and that is the story we hope to share."

The establishment of these additional national heritage areas means an increase in federal investment in Maryland's heritage resources and significant places. Combined with the state funding resources of the Maryland Heritage Areas Program, Maryland's communities are in an excellent position to create and maintain heritage tourism experiences, to illuminate nationally significant history, and to boost economic development across the state●

## Program Impact

In FY21, the MHAA published a comprehensive program impact study, created in conjunction with Parker Phillips, LLC. The study highlighted the significant ways the program contributes to Maryland's economy. Annually, the program contributes more than \$2.4 billion in economic impact and supports more than 33,000 jobs across the state.

Although based on pre-pandemic data from the summer and fall of 2019, the economic contribution analysis makes a clear case for the profound value of the program. Receiving an appropriation of \$6 million annually, the program returned \$319.8 million in local and state taxes. By creating and supporting authentic place-based experiences, the MHAA brings tourists from across the state and beyond. These experiences, which highlight the history, culture, and natural resources of the state, draw millions of visitors to the state●



Thames Street at Fell's Point  
Photo courtesy of APK - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0,  
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=94122948>





Autumn Chamber

Photo courtesy of Mountain Maryland Gateway to the West Heritage Area

In addition to the overall report, each of the 13 Certified Heritage Areas received its own reports. These local reports took into account the unique circumstances facing individual heritage areas and highlighted the varied approaches each heritage area takes to support its local constituencies.

As Maryland continues to reopen following COVID-19, this report makes clear the critical role heritage tourism plays in the state's economy. By investing in sites that celebrate the history and culture of the state, Maryland will continue to draw visitors from across the country●



## Racial Equity



Historic Photo of Maces Lane High School  
Photo courtesy of Mace's Lane Community Center,  
Inc.

After its first year of meetings, the MHAA Racial Equity Working Group is working to hire a facilitator to lead the group's efforts. With representatives from the heritage areas, the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture, and Governor Hogan's ethnic and cultural commissions, the working group was established to increase the program's equity through programmatic and structural changes. All residents of Maryland deserve to share in the state's rich heritage and by critically investigating the program's policies, the group aims to ensure that the Maryland Heritage Areas Program is inclusive, diverse, and equitable.

The working group is hiring a facilitator and evaluator to assist with analyzing the program, facilitating meetings between partners and stakeholders, and developing plans to improve the overall equity of the program. Two key areas of investigation will be access to funding and community engagement. The group is committed to ensuring that all of Maryland's diverse communities know about and can take advantage of the opportunities offered by the program●



# Marketing of the Heritage Areas Program and the Heritage Areas



Historic Sotterley's garden and historic house  
Photo Courtesy of Historic Sotterley, Inc.

The MHAA Marketing Working Group brought together partners and stakeholders to investigate how the program can best market itself to a variety of audiences. So far, the group has developed working definitions for the program and its partners, and has started to collect preliminary data on how the program is perceived.

The working group identified new avenues for highlighting the great work the MHAA is doing. A new web presence, a unified rebranding, and changes to the program's marketing grants are just a few suggestions being considered by the working group. As work picks up, the group has identified the potential need for a consultant to further the project, which it will consider in the coming year●



## FY20 Members of the Maryland Heritage Area Authority

Robert S. McCord  
Secretary, Department of  
Planning/Chair, Maryland Heritage  
Areas Authority

Gregory Slater  
Secretary, Department of  
Transportation

Kelly Schulz  
Secretary, Department of Commerce

Jeannie Haddaway Riccio  
Secretary, Department of Natural  
Resources

James D. Fielder, Jr., Ph.D.  
Secretary,  
Maryland Higher Education  
Commission

Kenneth C. Holt  
Secretary, Department of Housing and  
Community Development

Joseph Bartenfelder  
Secretary, Department of Agriculture  
(non-voting)

Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.  
Superintendent, Department of  
Education  
(non-voting)

Elizabeth Hughes  
State Historic Preservation Officer

Burton K. Kummerow  
President of the Senate Representative

Nicholas Redding  
President of the Senate Representative

Janice Hayes-Williams  
Speaker of the House Representative

Mary Anne Harms  
Speaker of the House Representative

John A. Kinnaird  
Maryland Municipal League  
Representative

Peter Leshner  
Maryland Association of Counties  
Representative

Daniel Spedden  
Maryland Tourism Development Board  
Representative

Robert David Campbell  
Governor's Appointee for Historic  
Preservation Expertise

Lisa Challenger  
Governor's Appointee for Heritage  
Tourism Expertise

Natalie Chabot  
Maryland Greenways Representative



For additional information, please contact:

Andrew Arvizu, Assistant Administrator

Maryland Heritage Areas Authority

Maryland Historical Trust

100 Community Place,

3rd Floor

Crownsville, MD 21032

410-697-9514

[andrew.arvizu@maryland.gov](mailto:andrew.arvizu@maryland.gov)

[mht.maryland.gov/heritageareas.shtml](http://mht.maryland.gov/heritageareas.shtml)